

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ENG M 61- 089

DATE:

14 FEB 1961

TO : Director of Communications

FROM : Chief, Engineering Staff, OC

SUBJECT: Recorder/Reproducer Units
CB-12, CB-13, CB-14 and MR-4

REFERENCE: OC 9740, dated 9 December 1960

1. The [] recorders, CB-12, CB-13, and CB-14, were procured from the [] on a cost plus fixed fee development contract initiated in July 1958. The performance of these recorders was unsatisfactory and they were returned to the contractor several times for repair and rework. Under a CPFF contract the cost of the development is borne by the Government despite the inability of the contractor to deliver an acceptable product.

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2. On 15 January 1959 the MR-4 recorder was requisitioned by SP/EA from the Office of Logistics to be procured on a fixed price purchase order to the []. After normal test and inspection it was accepted and the contractor was paid. The motor later failed, however, apparently because of breakdown of the motor transistors after the cumulative effect of high voltage transients. It was clear that partial redesign was necessary in order to insure stable long term operation.

25X1

3. Further work by [] on any of these equipments was not considered promising since the company had lost all of the engineers who designed the equipment originally, and the remaining engineering staff was considered barely able to maintain a reasonable effort on another of our programs, the CB-15. The recorders were turned over to the SoundScriber Corporation for inspection. The SoundScriber proposal covering their repair suggested a novel approach to the redesign of several troublesome circuits and a contract for this work was established.

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4. The only program now outstanding at [] is the CB-15 recorder which is nearing completion. This work was initiated in July 1959 before it became apparent that [] was in serious trouble on our recorders. Fortunately

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the CB-15 recorder includes several design improvements over earlier models and it appears that the contractor, even with his limited engineering staff, will make delivery of a satisfactory model shortly. Because of the technical problems described above as well as the contractor's uncertain financial status it was decided in December 1959 to issue no additional development work to [REDACTED].

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

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SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

Chief, OC-E
2815 Alcott

NO.

DATE

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. Director of Communications
2030 "I"

16 Feb

3

2. DD/CU

16 Feb

P/S

3. OC-O

16 FEB 1961

W/S

4. OC-T

3/3

K/S

5. OC-E / R4D

W/S

6. LR

1 Mar

R/S

7. File 602
T.O.#1 w/routing sheet

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

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FORM
1 DEC 56

610

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